

Then, of course, the other issue we are always very cognizant of on this floor is how we care for our environment, how we deal with emissions from our fuel and energy sources. With geothermal power, we do not produce greenhouse gas emissions, we do not release carbon into the environment. There is a significant, a hugely significant advantage given the current concerns over global warming and climate change.

I had an opportunity, not too many weeks back, to meet with the President of Iceland when he was visiting. I know he met with many Members of this body. I talked to the President of Iceland before. Coming from an Arctic environment, we share a lot in common; we like to exchange notes. We have always talked about the geothermal energy in Iceland and how that country has truly turned to that as their primary source of energy generation.

He indicated to me that just in this past year, he has had major corporations, international and national corporations from this country, looking to Iceland to locate their businesses. There used to be a time when countries would look elsewhere to find cheap sources of labor. Well, what companies are looking for now is affordable, reliable, clean energy.

Think about the potential again with geothermal. It is about as reliable as you are going to come across, just this constant bubbling source from underneath. It is absolutely clean. If we can develop the technology, it can be that affordable source.

Right now, we have researchers in the Alaska Aleutians hoping for a Federal grant to test whether new types of unmanned aerial vehicles can be used to pinpoint these geothermal hotspots, the exact spots where wells should be sunk to tap into the hot water resources. For a nominal Federal grant, this technology could be proven up and would save all geothermal projects many millions of dollars in drilling costs. This one project is an example of why and how Federal aid could be very useful.

This amendment would authorize a couple hundred million dollars in Federal funding for all forms of geothermal work over the next 5 years. That is less than what we have authorized for other forms of renewable energy in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 or have proposed for biomass, wind, solar, or hydrogen fuel development in EPAct and in this bill.

You don't hear people talk a lot about geothermal. You hear a great deal right now about wind, you hear a great deal right now about biomass. But we need to recognize the potential, the enormous potential geothermal holds for this country. As you hold it up against all of the other renewable sources, geothermal kind of sits out there all alone, by itself, along with ocean energy, which you are going to have another opportunity to hear me speak on that and the enormous poten-

tial we have with ocean energy. Geothermal and ocean received relatively little Federal assistance in the EPAct 2 years ago, but I believe geothermal is really on the verge of making great things happen in this country.

If we encourage geothermal development, I believe it will pay enormous dividends to the Nation. If we spend the money now to advance that technology, it will help the entire Nation, not just in the West but all across the country.

I urge my colleagues to take a look at the potential for geothermal and recognize that what we would do in this legislation is provide for that very necessary assessment to find out where this exists in terms of the ability to meet our growing energy needs and our desire to find those reliable, affordable, clean sources of energy. I hope my colleagues will endorse assistance to geothermal when this amendment finally comes to a vote.

I yield the floor, and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SANDERS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FATHER'S DAY

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, the Bible admonishes us to "honor thy father and thy mother." Courtesy insists that ladies go first. Last month, the Nation honored mothers with Mother's Day. The ladies were treated to cards, flowers, phone calls, brunches, gifts, and sometimes precious handmade crafts from the preschool set. Retailers urged more extravagant manifestations of our love for our wives and mothers with a dazzling array of usually heart-shaped diamond jewelry, all of which is certainly deserved, even if not always affordable.

This Sunday, June 17, the fathers get their due. Lumpy clay bowls, aftershave lotion and cologne, odd pieces of sports paraphernalia and, of course, neckties in remarkable fashion colors constitute the classic Father's Day gift for the man who has everything. There does not seem to be quite the same level of extravagance in the gift suggestions by merchants, however, perhaps because men do not wear as much jewelry, and golf clubs do not lend themselves to heart shapes. For

that I suppose we can all be grateful. Still, I am sure that most American fathers will enjoy being the center of the family's attention on Sunday. Fathers will enjoy their brunch. Fathers will enjoy a respite from lawn care and other chores. They might even indulge in an afternoon nap, a rare luxury—a rare luxury—for most family men.

Fathers deserve their day in the limelight. Good fathers are very busy men, and their contributions to the family merit recognition, just as much as their equally busy wives do. Good fathers work hard—they do—they work hard to provide for their families, but they also invest a lot of time and energy into the home. They often fulfill the stereotypical "dad role"—they keep the house and the yard in good repair, even if it means tackling mechanical or construction activities for which they have little training. They spend countless hours coaching neighborhood sports teams so that their sons and daughters learn the values of teamwork, leadership, and good sportsmanship. They help with the homework and with assorted school projects, patiently helping to build foaming volcanoes or seaside dioramas. They teach children to set a fishing rod, paddle a canoe, ride a bicycle, or build a dog house. They urge their children to try new things to push themselves harder, to struggle, to win graciously, and to lose with honor. Good fathers want great things for their children. Good fathers help their children to achieve by letting them know that they believe in them. That is a lot to accomplish in a few precious hours between getting home from work and getting to bed each night.

The great man who raised me, the greatest man I ever knew, was my old coal miner dad. I always called him my dad. My adoptive father was just such a good man. He walked to work in the coal mines every day, and he walked home at night. Tired he was, covered with coal dust. Tired as he always was, he always greeted me with a smile, a quick smile. And sometimes he had a cake, a cupcake in his lunch box, and he always saved the cake for me.

He took pride in my school work. Even though I wanted to go into the mines like him, he always told me not to do it, but to do well in school instead. He did not want me in the mines, in those dangerous days of long ago. He wanted better for me than he had. And he put his energy into urging me to do better. His influence on me has been a resource for my whole life. He is the greatest man I ever knew. I have met with Presidents, kings, and princes. He is the greatest man I ever knew.

I was blessed with a good father. I hope that everyone's father is as special to each of you. Fatherhood is a great gift. Fathers gain new responsibilities, but also gain the joys of having children. For children, to have a great father, whether he is one's biological father or one's adoptive father

or just a father figure who influences one's youth, is a very special thing indeed.

It is certainly possible for a child to grow into a talented, accomplished, and good adult without the influence of a father figure, but good fathers and good mothers give their children an advantage. They give their children the security of knowing always that they are loved and that someone is rooting for them, someone is looking out for them. In that security, a child can find the confidence to try and to fail, and to try and to fail, and to try and to fail, and to try again, and to try and to fail again. It is a great and lasting gift that our fathers give to each of us, one that certainly deserves one day of recognition every year.

So, Mr. President, I close with a short poem by Holly Dunn called "Daddy's Hands" and a salute to fathers everywhere:

I remember daddy's hands folded silently in prayer.
And reachin' out to hold me, when I had a nightmare.
You could read quite a story in the callous' and lines.
Years of work and worry had left their mark behind.
I remember daddy's hands, how they held my mama tight
And patted my back for something done right.
There are things that I'd forgotten that I loved about the man
But I'll always remember the love in daddy's hands.
Daddy's hands were soft and kind when I was cryin'
Daddy's hands were hard as steel when I'd done wrong.
Daddy's hands weren't always gentle but I've come to understand
There was always love in daddy's hands.
I remember daddy's hands workin' 'til they bled
Sacrificed unselfishly just to keep us all fed.
If I could do things over, I'd live my life again
And never take for granted the love—
The sweet love—
in daddy's hands.

FLAG DAY

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, June 14 is celebrated in the United States as "Flag Day." Flag Day is not a big holiday. Offices will not close to observe it; stores will not hold special sales; no fireworks will light the sky; no special presents or dinners will make June 14 stand out for most people. I doubt that even the holiday card makers have put out much of a selection of cards to send to loved ones, reminding them that we are thinking of them on Flag Day. But it is a special day nonetheless. One may notice more flags than usual—small ones cantilevered into the breeze next to neighborhood front doors and larger ones snapping smartly before schools and storefronts. In Washington, DC, of course, we are blessed with a plethora of flags. Flag Day is a good time to take special note of them, flying proudly above the Capitol Building

and in front of all the other government offices and monuments, like those encircling the Washington Monument. They are a grand sight every day of the year, but especially so on Flag Day.

Americans honor their flag, the Stars and Stripes, or Old Glory, on June 14 because it was on June 14, 1777—230 years ago—that the Continental Congress adopted a resolution to give the United States a national flag to replace the British Union Jack. A special committee was formed assigned to suggest the flag's design in a report. The resulting proclamation was brief but inspiring. It said, simply:

That the flag of the United States shall be of 13 stripes of alternate red and white, with a union of 13 stars of white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.

The new flag was first carried into battle on September 11, 1777, at the Battle of Brandywine, as General George Washington attempted to prevent the British from advancing on Philadelphia.

The 13 stars on that first flag represented the 13 original colonies, but that constellation continued to grow as the Nation grew, until we became the 50 stars that grace Old Glory today. At first, the number of stripes grew as well, but that quickly became unwieldy, and the number of stripes reverted to 13, to represent the original 13 States in the Nation. George Washington is reputed to have said that:

We take the stars from heaven, the red from our mother country, separate it by white in stripes, thus showing that we have separated from her.

Certainly, the original congressional proclamation did not specify the symbolism of the colors of the flag, or the design, but that has only left the field of symbolism wide open for poets and philosophers, for generals and Presidents as well as everyday citizens. The red has been seen as the blood that has been shed for our Nation, as well as for the red of the British Union Jack. The white has been seen as purity or hope, while the blue has been compared to honor or to the heavens that guard over the Nation. Flags are full of symbols, and Old Glory means many things to Americans. It sums up our Nation in a single icon, and we project our love, pride, determination and even, sometimes, our frustration on it.

The American flag usually brings out the best in us, or rather, the best in us usually brings out the American flag. There are few sights more moving than the sudden appearance of so many American flags on the afternoon of September 11, 2001, and in the days immediately after. The fierce determination and unshaken loyalty to our Nation in the face of a threat was clear in the sight of the flags that appeared on homes, stores, mailboxes and cars within hours of that unspeakable event.

The Stars and Stripes are seen when we celebrate, such as on the Fourth of July or at inaugurations. Old Glory

also marks more solemn occasions. The sight of the American flag draped over the coffin of a soldier home from the war, to be solemnly folded and placed in the lap of his grieving family, is a grim reminder of the sometimes great cost of serving our Nation. Those flags, sitting still folded in triangular flag cases on mantels, under shadowboxes with medals, and the small flags so carefully placed in front of the markers at veterans' cemeteries around the Nation on the last Monday in May, remind us of the close proximity between Memorial Day at the end of May and Flag Day in mid-June. But again soon, on July 4, we will see the Stars and Stripes back in party mode, flying proudly over our heads as a part of our grand national birthday celebration.

Mr. President, I like to close my observation of Flag Day with one of my favorite poems, by Henry Holcomb Bennett, entitled "The Flag Goes By."

THE FLAG GOES BY

Hats off!
Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,
A flash of color beneath the sky:
Hats off!
The flag is passing by!
Blue and crimson and white it shines,
Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.
Hats off!
The colors before us fly;
But more than the flag is passing by.
Sea-fights and land-fights, grim and great,
Fought to make and save the State;
Weary marches and sinking ships;
Cheers of victory on dying lips.
Days of plenty and years of peace;
March of a strong land's swift increase;
Equal justice, right, and law, Stately
honor and reverend awe;
Signs of nation, great and strong
Toward her people from foreign wrong;
Pride and glory and honor,—all
Live in the colors to stand or fall.
Hats off!
Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums;
And loyal hearts are beating high;
Hats off!
The Flag is passing by!

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, today is a day of great significance to me and many Americans. In 1949, after decades of unofficial celebrations, President Truman signed an act of Congress that National Flag Day would be celebrated each year on June 14. Sadly, this national holiday goes unnoticed by far too many Americans. I wish to make a few brief comments about our Nation's flag on this day of celebration and remembrance.

Whenever I get a chance to speak with foreign visitors to the United States, I like to ask about their impression of the United States, especially if it is their first time visiting. Time after time, they express amazement at the abundant presence of the U.S. flag, not only in Washington, DC, but in cities and towns of every size across the Nation.

Truly, flags are flying everywhere, not only at government buildings but at restaurants, parks, malls, gas stations, along highways, not to mention